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United States Senate

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COMMITTEES:

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The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

I have recently become aware of M2Z Networks' (M2Z) initiative to make free, family-friendly, broadband service available to 95% of the public. M2Z's proposal represents an opportunity to provide increased broadband competition.

The Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) decision to move forward on the M2Z proposal by allowing the public to comment on the M2Z proposal is a good one and I applaud you for commencing the transparent, public debate on proposals that will lead to increased deployment of broadband services.

It is my understanding that the M2Z proposal would be financed by the private sector and the nationwide broadband network would be built without requiring any level of government funding. In its proposal, M2Z commits to an extraordinarily fast build-out – 33% of the public gaining access within three years of licensing; 66% of the public having access to this service within five years of licensing, and at least 95% of the public having access to free broadband service within 10 years of receiving the necessary license from the FCC. Importantly, M2Z has committed not to use Universal Service Funds as it builds its nationwide broadband network – thereby creating a private sector solution that will not look to taxation or government handouts to connect many of the 114 million American adults currently not connected to a broadband service.

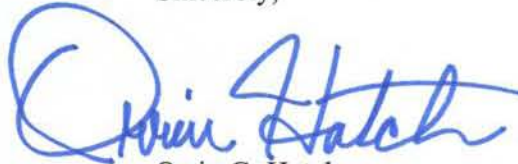
Additionally, M2Z's commitment to filter indecent material from the free broadband network represents a much needed and long overdue private sector remedy to protect minors from the dangers of accessing pornography and indecent material over the Internet. I know many Utahns would welcome the opportunity to provide their children with the educational and economic opportunity which broadband access can provide without having to become software engineers in order to protect their children. Often parents try in vain to protect their youngsters from inappropriate content on the Internet by installing software tools on their computers, only to be stymied in their efforts by creative and aggressive engineers providing content over the Internet. It seems network providers are in a good position to be able to block offensive content at the source so that ordinary parents don't have to get an engineering degree to protect their children.

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In short, it appears that M2Z has developed a business plan worthy of your attention and I would encourage you to give their proposal every consideration. Thank you for your service to our Country and your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Orrin Hatch", with a large, stylized initial "O".

Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senator

OGH:mss